



# THE NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

JUNE - 1986

## —DATES TO REMEMBER—

June 2

GCSANE Superintendent-Green  
Chairman Tournament  
Hampden C.C.  
Hampden, Mass.

June 26

Turf Research Field Day  
So. Deerfield, Mass.  
(details inside)

July 7

GCSANE Regular Meeting/  
Golf Championship  
Vesper C.C.

## —Editorial—

Two months ago, requests were sent out for updated addresses in order that the 1986 Membership Directory and Mailing Addresses could be confirmed. Information was also requested regarding current Green Committee Chairman and Club President. As of this writing, only 52 out of 138 responded.

We understand that this would require upwards of one (1) minute of your valuable time and we greatly appreciate the overwhelming response. There is SO MUCH work to be done on the golf course during the MONTH of MARCH!

The GCSANE Newsletter is the Association's prime vehicle for communicating with Green Committee Chairmen and Club Presidents. Golf Course Superintendents feel their best efforts go unnoticed and their words fall upon deaf ears.

The anemic response to the recent request would lead some to conclude that we have met the enemy and it is us.

—RON KIRKMAN

## —Manchester Country Club - A Shady Lady No More—

There used to be 1,000 pine trees at the Manchester Country Club. That's Manchester, as in New Hampshire.

Well, as they say in the Ozarks, "they ain't there no more".

Not that they cleared out the place.

"Oh, no," explains Manchester's perceptive golf course superintendent, Jim Diorio. "We only got rid of the ones that were blocking out the sun and making it almost impossible to grow healthy turf. But there was a slew of them."

That slew took its toll on Diorio's maintenance program and his patience. In his eight years at Manchester, he had taken up the cause of those superintendents who had preceded him. Those trees had to go or the course never would have a chance to reach peak condition.

In fact, to relieve Manchester of its nickname, Shady Lady, and convince its members and owners those trees were doing more harm than good, required the better part of 25 years.

"Long before I came here, members knew that the trees were becoming a drain on the turf," Diorio discloses. "But they always had enough support to kill any attempt to cut them down."

"Naturally, as the years went on and the trees increased in size, the effect of their presence grew with them. The higher they got, the longer their shadows became. I'd say they grew as tall as 75 to 100 feet and some of them were almost five feet across in diameter. That's a lot of shade and a lot of grief when you're trying to grow grass in the dark."

Diorio and his predecessors tried everything to combat the adverse growing conditions. However, it was a losing battle and the big decision to make the big cut dragged on until last fall.

Then, Diorio convinced Manchester president Jack Cullity and green chairman Bob Dunn that another push to take some of the shade from the course was virtually mandatory. Those two gentlemen, in turn, got the okay from the membership and then presented the situation to the club's owner - the privately franchised group known as Manchester Associates.

"Presenting the idea to them was another interesting aside to the situation," Diorio tells. "There was no problem at all. I can't understand it. All those years when others and myself were struggling to grow grass in those big-shade areas the actual owners didn't know about it. At least, they said it had never been brought to their attention before."

Anyway, while well-wishers of the project wound up the old victrola and spun away, "When They Cut Down the Old Pine Tree", a crew from the Monadnock Lumber Company let 'er rip.

As a matter of fact, Diorio spend his winter overseeing the cutting and clean-up operation which turned into a monumental task.

"The actual cutting took eight weeks," Jim informs. "But that was only half of it. The clean-up work was something unreal. In fact, we've been into it right through the spring months and still going at it."

The yield from the trees was in the vicinity of 240,000 board feet of lumber for which Monadnock negotiated in an arrangement with Manchester Associates. In the final counting, there was a profit of some \$15,000 for the club.

"The nice thing about that is the owners agreed to put all the money back into the club," Diorio continued. "Needless to say, the money's been spent because of the tremendous cost of cleaning up the mess and trying to get things growing in the direction of a golf course again."

The effect of the tree-cut won't be felt or noticed for at least a couple of years or

Manchester con't. on pg. 5—

# Golf Course Superintendents Association



Sponsors and administrators of the Troll-Dickinson Scholarship Fund - Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

## President's Message

David Barber

June, 1986



I would like to thank the Beverly Golf and Tennis Club for hosting our May 12 Meeting. A special thanks to Al Auger and his staff for an enjoyable day. A reminder to our members and friends of the Association; please call the Host Superintendent and make your reservation for our monthly meetings.

For those of you who were unable to attend the May 12 meeting, Mr. Roy Crystal, from the DEQE addressed the membership on the newly enacted "Massachusetts Water Management Act." This law will affect Golf Courses directly or indirectly. If you draw over 100,000 Gal. of water per day, you will be required to register with the DEQE and obtain a withdrawal permit.

Within 2 years—March 1988— The DEQE shall adopt:

1. Regulations, criteria, and procedures for issuing permits.
2. Form and content requirements for permit applications.
3. Set application fees.
4. Requirements for monitoring, inspecting, and reporting water withdrawals.

It may be advisable that some type of meter, be installed at our pumps, to get a more accurate reading of the water being used on your course.

A fact finding survey was mailed to

## — The Super Speaks Out —

(Welcome to The Super Speaks Out - a monthly feature which offers the golf course superintendent a forum to express his views on topics and issues relating to his profession.)

*This month's question: There is a growing show of disinterest in what has developed into issue, so do you think you should make the Newsletter available to your green chairman and club president and why?*

**Mike Nagle, Worcester Country Club:** "There's no real issue here as far as I'm concerned. Green chairmen and club presidents should receive the Newsletter and their superintendents should see that they do.

"After all, the Newsletter is one way of enhancing our professional image and what better way to do it than to make it visible to the people at our clubs with whom we have official and direct contact?

"I can think of no reason why I wouldn't want my chairman or president to see the Newsletter - even at times when the superintendent might be taken to task. But that's still a plus, too, because it shows that we, like everyone else, are only human and exposed to making mistakes.

"I've heard that a lot of members don't respond to the postcards provided for setting the names and addresses of club officials to the Newsletter chairman. Frankly, I'm baffled by this.

"There's not anything in the Newsletter, that I know of, that's printed to put the superintendent in a bad light. On the contrary, it's dedicated in keeping members informed of changes in maintenance methods, et al and bringing them up to date on happenings in and around the profession.

"That information also is valuable  
*Super Speaks con't, on pg. 3—*

all members of our Association with the May Newsletter. FOUR have been filled out and returned, If we are to help implement this new Water Management Act. we will need the assistance of our members, **Please return your survey today !!**

## — GHIN NUMBER —

A GHIN number is assigned to every golfer when joining the system. This is unique and will be that golfer's number as long as he or she remains on the GHIN system, irrespective of the GHIN Club or association to which he or she transfers. Complete histories can thus be maintained and scoring records easily transferred from club to club or to different associations.

Golfers who have identified themselves as multi-members (members belonging to two or more clubs being serviced by GHIN) should have the same GHIN number at all of their clubs and all of their scores are included in their score history at each of their clubs. To become a multi-member the golfer must be transferred into one GHIN Club from another GHIN Club. The player will not be deleted from the first club until that club requests it.

Do YOU have two handicaps (superintendent; home club); two GHIN numbers?

Your association, in conjunction with the Mass. Golf Association is looking to resolve this problem. It is important to both organizations that we have one number for each member.

If you currently have a club GHIN handicap number, please inform Golf Chairman Jim O'Kelly so that we can consolidate your two numbers to one.

Again, this is important to us as we are trying to make the handicap system work as it should. It should be noted that the MGA provides us a complimentary service for our handicaps and your GHIN number from our association can be used at your club. Why not take advantage of this opportunity?

Also, if you need to establish a handicap, please submit at least five (if not all) your scores to O'Kelly who would be happy to establish a handicap for you. You must have least five scores !!!

Send your scorecards to:

Jim O'Kelly  
P.O. Box 130  
Newtonville, MA 02160

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C.C. of New Seabury

## Golf Course Superintendents Association

OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

NEWSLETTER - JUNE, 1986

—*Super Speaks con't. from pg. 2*

to the green chairman and club president. Therefore, I can't think of one Newsletter available to them."

**Kip Tyler, Salem Country Club:** "The obvious answer is positive. The advantages of green chairmen and club presidents reading the Newsletter far outweigh the disadvantages - if, indeed, there are any.

"For one thing, there is a need for certain club officials to be aware of what's going on in our profession. That's why I put my card in the mail as soon as I got it.

"In fact, I have co-chairmen, so I doubled up in that area. And, I know that they read it. One, by the way, goes beyond that. When he sees something which might be of interest to me in another publication, he clips it and gives it to me.

"In addition, I think the Newsletter elevates our profession in the eyes of club officials. It (Newsletter) is a worthy one with topical articles and educational tips which make it an interesting and rewarding read.

"Besides, reading the Newsletter and stories relating to what the superintendent does, on and off the course, lets our green chairmen and presidents know there's something more than beer-drinking going on at our meetings. So, I'm all for them receiving it."

**Tom Schofield, Wellesley Country Club:** "Since I'm involved in the mailing process (to which I subscribe without argument), it's sad to report something less than 50 percent of our membership fails to comply with the address requests we send out.

"I think the members, who don't bother to supply that information, are the same ones who take membership in the association as an in-name-only proposition. They don't take part in the discussions, most don't bother to make a single meeting all year.

"I'm not challenging their right to ignore active participation. They can do it, for whatever reason they choose. However, I think they're the big losers because of it. Heck, I've been in the association for about 18 years and there are members I wouldn't know if I fell over them.

"As for not complying with the attempt to supply green chairmen and presidents with the Newsletter, all I can say is someone's missing the boat.

"There's no question that more and more information is coming out of the

## —GCSAA Certification Update—

By Dennis Lyon, CGCS,  
Director/Chairman Certification Committee

**Certification:** 1985 was a very exciting year for the Certification program. There were 144 Superintendents certified in 1985 as compared to 66 in 1984. The total number of Certified Superintendents went over 700 for the first time in the history of the program. Also, in 1985 the attestor program initiated.

The attestor program, for those unfamiliar with it, involves a visitation to the applicant's golf course by two Certified Superintendents. During this visitation a series of questions are asked on the applicant's course, number of employees, budget, maintenance practices, capital projects, etc. The applicant also provides a written paper on how he/she has professionally solved three problems on the golf course. After the interview the attestors tour the course with the Superintendent and attest to the applicant's competence to become Certified.

Although it is a big step, the program has for the most part been well accepted by both the attestors and the attestees.

A change recently made in the attestor program was to the original requirement that attesting be completed prior to the applicant taking the exam. The Certification Committee approved a procedure allowing the applicant to take the exam either before or after attesting.

One area of the attesting program which has created some confusion is the requirement that attesting must be accomplished during the growing season. There are no exceptions to this

Newsletter as time goes on. If club officials aren't reading it, they're being deprived of a pertinent connection with their superintendent. They're missing a lot, believe me.

"As for returning the postcards, I have no explanation for that. It's not like we're giving members a 10-minute quiz. It takes only seconds to fill them out. But, as I said earlier, it takes all kinds of members to make an association."

—GERRY FINN

requirement. The growing season is defined as the time when turf is actively growing. It is the responsibility of the attestors to determine if it is the growing season.

Another change adopted by the Certification Committee in 1985 is that when the closed book exams start in 1988, the "Rules of Golf" section will remain open book.

With regard to the Certification exam, the exam and resource material are currently being updated. The new exam is scheduled to be implemented in the latter part of 1986.

The proposed internship program is aspect of the Certification program about which the Committee has been reviewing and obtaining membership input. As the internship program stands now, it will be voluntary rather than a requirement for Certification. The internship program is currently in the development stages and entails a 12 month structured program under a CGCS. Although the internship program is voluntary, successful completion of the program will help fulfill the experience towards the experience requirement the internship program will represent. It is planned that the internship program will be implemented in 1987. Membership comments on this proposal are encouraged.

The "educational" requirement for  
*Certification con't. on pg. 4—*

### —ANNOUNCEMENT—

JUNE 26

Turf Research Field Day  
Univ. of Massachusetts  
Turfgrass Research Center  
South Deerfield, MA

Contact: Dr. Rich Cooper  
Dept. Plant and Soil Sciences  
Stockbridge Hall  
Amherst, MA 01003  
Phone: (413) 545-2353

# Golf Course Superintendents Association

OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

NEWSLETTER - JUNE, 1986

—Certification con't. from pg. 3

Certification is another aspect of the program will be implemented in 1989. The long range plan calls for completion of 30 semester hours of college credit or completion of half of GCSAA's Division I curriculum before a member is eligible for Certification. The Division I curriculum was finalized in 1985. The list of courses in Division I will be published this year.

With regard to the educational requirements for Certification and recertification, an area which generates numerous inquiries is the question of obtaining CEU's for local and regional conferences. This procedure is as follows:

1. Each chapter should designate a member to be responsible for applying for the CEU credits for local and regional conferences. (Conferences must involve a minimum of 5 contact hours.)

2. This member should obtain the CEU application form from the GCSAA education office.

3. The appointed member should send the CEU application form and a copy of the conference educational program to the GCSAA Education Department a minimum of three weeks before the conference. (Note: CEU credits must be applied for before the conference.)

4. The education department will evaluate the conference and determine how many CEU's the program will receive.

5. This evaluation and the sign-up sheets for the conference will be sent to the responsible member.

6. The member will then provide the sign-up sheets at the conference and obtain the signatures of those in attendance.

7. These sign-up sheets are then sent to headquarters and the members are given CEU credit.

8. No notification of credit is sent back to the member. Each member is invited to call headquarters and inquire as to the number of CEU credits on file. All Certified members are encouraged to determine the number of CEU's they have on file at least 12 months prior to recertification.

In summary I feel that Certification has evolved into an increasingly valuable credential. This increased value is evidenced by the dramatic

## —CHIP SHOTS—

... only to mention that as a follow up to last months mention of Stephen Wiacek and the Elks Hoop Shoot, we have learned that he put in 21 of 25 shots and finishes 2nd in his age group nationally. CONGRATULATIONS STEVE !!

## Golf Results - April 17, 1986

- Country Club of New Seabury
- Qualification Round for
- Guy Tedesco Tournament
- 1st Gross-Dave Barber CGCS-81
- 2nd Gross-Dick Duggan-82
- 1st Net-Doug Johnson CGCS-86/79
- 2nd Net-Jim O'Kelly-83/79
- Commercial Division-
- Larry Anshewitz-83

## —POSITION AVAILABLE—

Golf Course Superintendent  
Manchester C.C.  
Manchester, N.H.

Please Contact:

Mr. Robert Dunn  
112 Mamouth Rd.  
Manchester, N.H. 03103

\*\*\*\*\* In Memoriam \*\*\*\*\*

*We have recently learned of the untimely death of GCSANE member Richard Rockwood. Our Association would like to extend its sympathy and condolences to "Rocky's" family on their loss.*

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increase in participants in the Certification program.

If you are interested in becoming Certified, now is the time to get started. You can have your visitation this summer and study for and take the exam this winter. Many Superintendents have found taking the prep course and exam at Conference to be a very rewarding experience.

For further information please call  
Tracy Koons at headquarters,  
phone #1-800-472-7878

If you need my assistance  
please call me at 303-695-7150

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## GCSAA NEWS RELEASE—

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) announces the commencement of the 1986-87 GCSAA Scholarship Competition.

Gerald L. Faubel, CGCS, GCSAA Scholarship and Research (S&R) Committee Chairman, said scholarship application packets were forwarded in mid-April to 120 advisers of turfgrass management programs in 106 institutions across the nation.

Eligible students now may apply directly to the S & R Committee. Previously, students were required to apply through their advisers at the institutions in which they were enrolled.

The GCSAA Committee considers an applicant's leadership potential, scholastic capabilities, character, communication and social skills and commitment to a turfgrass management career, specifically as a golf course superintendent.

Candidates must have completed the first year of a two-year turfgrass technical program, the second year of a four-year or baccalaureate program with major emphasis in turf management or be enrolled in a graduate program.

Candidates must be outstanding in character, integrity and leadership. These qualities must have been proven during participation in extra-curricular, civic or community activities.

Finalists must clearly establish their need for financial assistance.

Golf course superintendents who are aware of a student in a turfgrass management program who is eligible and deserving of a scholarship award may request an application form from GCSAA.

For further information, contact:  
Betsy Evans at 1-800-GSA-SUPT.

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## —POSITION AVAILABLE—

Assistant Superintendent  
Plymouth C.C.  
Plymouth, Mass.

Please Send Resume to/or Call:

Mr. Roger Travis  
Roger Travis Associated  
10 Industrial Park Rd.  
Hingham, Mass. 02043  
617-749-4751

## —USGA Regional Conference Highlights—

A multitude of information was presented by the speakers at the recent USGA Regional Conference held in Framingham, MA. You know the sessions were good when John "Grizzly" Pluta comes out early from hibernation and leaves his beautiful mountain valley to travel a great distance to attend this seminar.

Secretary-Treasurer NEPGA; Tom Tetrault, President NEGMA; Peter Tunley, Vice President GCSAA; Don Hearn. All three emphasized continuing education for their members and better communications among department heads. Each stated their National Organization is growing, not only in size, but also in stature. Wouldn't it be nice if we could cast aside our personal differences, professional jealousies and all work together as a unit!

Don also spoke on the new laws and regulations concerning underground and abandoned fuel storage tanks. Tom Tetrault added to the program by talking on the success he has had with computers in his pro shop and commented that because supermarket chains, fast food outlets, etc. are paying upwards of \$6.00/hr. for unskilled labor, this could be the worst year ever in securing summer employees for area golf courses.

Bill Spence: Supt. The Country Club; preparing for the 1988 U.S. OPEN, by using old photographs. The golf course is being restored back to its original design. Bill has installed a superb computerized automatic watering system. While doing this, he found out we supers in this area are pretty good growers of rock and ledge. Additional water was needed, but in the past, Geologists using their most sophisticated equipment had a difficult time in locating a well that could produce more water. Today, a geological survey (to find water) complete with satellite photos and the like would cost in excess of \$2,000. Bill, using his newly acquired Yankee ingenuity had another idea. He gambled and contacted a Professional Dowser by the name of Bill Broadley. Mr. Broadley, using a lead cylinder dangling at the end of a small bracelet chain, waived this over a photograph from the irrigation system. From this old photo he found some general areas and he went out on the golf course for further investigation. He took his No. 14 wire with some sort of loop in it and within twenty minutes he found his spot and said you will find water here at a depth of 220 feet. He added, don't go over 235 feet or you will be wasting your money. Would you believe, at the forecasted depth water was found. Adding to Mr. Spence, this well produces three times as much water as

any other well on the golf course.

Brian Silva gave a very informative talk on The Captains Course. He must use a lot of fertilizer on his slides because they seem to get greener and greener every time one sees them. A little history on the Munchkin: He is a native of Framingham, Mass., a graduate of Stockbridge, majoring in Turf. He also received his degree in Landscape Architecture from the Univ. of Mass. Brian taught Golf Course Operations at Lake City Community College in Florida and served with the USGA Green Section as an Agronomist before joining forces with Mr. Cornish. Congratulations are in order for Mr. Silva for he is now a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects. Come to think of it, the Munchkin has spoken at many seminars on a variety of subjects. But, I really can't recall if he ever spoke at the Mass. Turf Conference. Dr. Troll and Mayor Caranci, are you out there? Remember - good things come in small packages.

Jim Snow, Director Green Section, NE Region, USGA gave a general talk that detailed some of his experiences as an agronomist traveling throughout the Northeast over the past few years. He sees a continuing interest in the use of smaller mowers in fairway turf.

—Manchester con't. from pg. 1

while the ailing turf is nursed to its strength and texture expectancy.

"Sure, it'll take a while for the course to come up to the degree of conditioning everyone wishes," Jim adds. "But the members realize this is not going to be an overnight cure. However, just for openers, it has resulted in an earlier snow and ice melt for us."

Eventually, the short and long range projections will come into focus and Manchester should reach its potential as one of the finest, if not the finest golf courses in New Hampshire. So, Manchester's a shady lady no more - thanks to Jim Diorio and the others who finally saw the light before those trees blotted it out forever. Nice ending.

—GERRY FINN

Mechanical damage is minimized and bentgrass populations greatly increased at the expense of annual blue grass. Jim suggested automatic irrigation as an excellent way to reduce total water use. In addition, there are significant savings in labor when comparing automatic to manual systems. He mentioned observing skunk and crow damage in the fall on turf areas treated with Oftanol the previous April and suggested that a June application might alleviate the problem. Mr. Snow detailed some of the adverse effects of the putting speed race afflicting many of today's golf courses. Other speakers were: Charles Pyle, Secretary USGA; Gary Watschke, Agronomist USGA; Karl Olson, Agronomist USGA; Eric Shiel, Director USGA; and Ray Bump, President MGA.

In closing, we would like to take this opportunity and send a message from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England to the Green Section of the United States Golf Association. We SALUTE you, for over the years through your educational sessions, research and experimental work - you have brought us, the golf course superintendent, a wealth of knowledge which is of lasting benefit to our clubs.

—RON KIRKMAN

*Editors Note: Due to space limitations we were unable to print this article in last month's Newsletter. We apologize to those who may have looked for this information last month.*

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Newton, Mass.  
617-244-7929

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5 Purcell Rd., Arlington, Ma 02174  
Golf Course Construction  
(617) 648-2351 or 428-3022

**\*Tom Irwin, Inc.**  
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Jack Peterson  
Dennis Friel Phone # 617-938-1751  
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